

- c. a processing computer within the computer system, which is coupled to the standing instruction database and which is configured to:
- i. receive a communication from the broker containing notice of order execution information (a broker communication);
 - ii. receive a communication from the institution containing institution allocation instruction information (an institution communication);
 - iii. match, at the processing computer, the institution communication with the broker communication based on information contained in both communications;
 - iv. if there is a match, generate a confirmation for the trade based on information contained in the broker communication, information contained in the institution communication and information stored in the standing instructions database; and
 - v. make available, from the processing computer, the confirmation as a communication to the institution, broker, agent and interested parties for the exchange of money and securities to settle the trade.

9. (Amended) A computer-based system for settlement of a securities trade among an institution, broker, agent and interested parties, the system comprising:

a processing computer configured to (i) receive a notice of order execution communication from the broker (a broker communication) containing data fields with

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information concerning an executed trade; (ii) receive a institution allocation instruction communication from the institution (an institution communication) containing data fields concerning the executed trade; where some of the data fields within the institution communication corresponds to data fields within the broker communication; and (iii) match the broker communication and the institution communication by matching data within a preselected set of the corresponding data fields in the broker and institution communications.

14. (Amended) In a computerized communication system for exchanging post-trade information between the parties necessary for the settlement of a securities trade, the apparatus comprising:

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- a. a trade confirmation communications system configured to receive, process and transmit communications from and to the parties;
 - b. a standing instructions data base coupled to the trade confirmation communications system having at least one data table for storing a plurality of information related to the trade stored by at least one of the parties prior to the securities trade;
 - c. a matching controller coupled to and within the trade confirmation communications system configured to match a trade communication containing notice of order execution information from one of the parties to a communication containing a trade allocation information from another one of the parties; and
 - d. the trade confirmation communications system further configured to generate a confirmation based on information within the received communication and information stored within the standing instruction database.

21. (Amended) A system executing post-trade communications in

the settlement of a securities trade among a broker,
institution, agent and interested parties comprising:

- a. computer hardware and software means to enable the broker, institution, agent and interested parties to send and receive communications;
- b. means to state a set of standing instruction records containing sets of instructions for trade settlement input by the institution, the broker and the agent prior to the securities trade;
- c. computer hardware and software means to:
 - i. receive a communication from the broker containing notice of order execution information (a broker communication);
 - ii. receive a communication from the institution containing institution allocation instruction information (an institution communication);
 - iii. match, at the computer hardware and software means, the institution communication with the broker communication based on information contained in both communications;
 - iv. if there is a match, generate a confirmation for the trade based on information contained in the broker communication, information contained in the institution communication and information stored in the standing instructions database; and
 - v. make available, from the computer hardware and software means, the confirmation as a communication to the institution, broker, agent

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and interested parties for the exchange of
money and securities to settle the trade.

28. (Amended) The method of claim 22, further comprising the steps of:

storing the institution communication and retrieving it before attempting to match the broker communication with the institution communication.

29. (Amended) A method for operating a computer to execute the communications necessary for settlement of a securities trade among a broker, institution, agent and interested parties, the method comprising the steps of:

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- a. receiving prior to the securities trade from one or more of the broker, institution and agent a set of instructions for trade settlement;
 - b. a standing instructions database storing the instructions for trade settlements;
 - c. receiving a communication from the broker containing notice of order execution information (a broker communication);
 - d. receiving a communication from the institution containing institution allocation instruction information (an institution communication);
 - e. matching the institution communication with the broker communication based on information contained in both communications;
 - f. if there is a match, generating a confirmation for the trade based on information contained in the broker communication, information contained in the institution communication and information stored in the standing instructions database; and
 - g. making available, from a central location, the confirmation as a communication to the institution, broker, agent and interested parties for settlement of the trade.

31. (Amended) A system for settlement of a securities trade by communicating the details of the trade among a broker, institution, agent and interested parties comprising:

- a. a computer system which enables the broker and institution to send and receive communications and make communications available to the agent and interested parties;
- b. a standing instructions database containing sets of instructions for trade settlement input by the institution, the broker and the agent prior to the securities trade;
- c. a processing computer within the computer system, which is coupled to the standing instruction database and which is configured to:
 - i. receive a series of communications from the broker containing notice of order execution information, the series including a last broker communication;
 - ii. receive a communication from the institution containing institution allocation instruction information (an institution communication);
 - iii. match, at the processing computer, the institution communication with the last broker communication based on information contained in both communications;
 - iv. if there is a match, generate a confirmation for the trade based on information contained in the last broker communication, information contained in the institution communication and information stored in the standing instructions